



NOTES FROM THE:

Professional Military Comptroller School

by Maj Rodney M. Troyanowski

My tour of duty at the DoD Professional Military Comptroller School (PMCS) is almost at an end. As I reflect on my experiences during the last three years, I can say this assignment was the most rewarding one of my career. The PMCS end-of-course critiques consistently identify interaction with our distinguished guest speakers, fellow students, and faculty as the primary strengths of the course. These same three hallmarks made my assignment memorable and helped me succeed as our “desert comptroller” in Saudi Arabia.

Meeting and interacting with guest speakers on a regular basis is a unique bonus for being a faculty member at PMCS. Senior leaders in the comptroller field are extremely supportive of our program and freely share their views on current issues. Through this I was able to keep abreast of pressing issues and maintain currency in my portion of curriculum, Resource Allocation. I wish to thank our guest speakers for their continued support and guidance.

During my tenure, approximately 800 students graduated from PMCS. Each student brought a unique set of experiences and functional area expertise to their respective classes. This was a tremendous pool of talent and knowledge, and I benefitted immensely from listening and interacting with all the students. I tell the students in my seminars I’m more a facilitator than instructor. Attendance at PMCS is worth the time just to be able to network with fellow students from the different Services and DoD agencies. I feel lucky to have experienced this each class.

The faculty at PMCS is world-class. I’ve seen each instructor go the extra mile to make this school the best in the business. The teamwork displayed by the faculty is remarkable. Whenever I had to be in two places at once, somebody was there to help me out. My heartfelt thanks to all the faculty that I have had the honor of working with, both past and present.

The real value of the PMCS experience becomes known once you apply your expanded knowledge on the job. I was fortunate to put my PMCS experiences to use in the middle of my tour while deployed to Saudi Arabia for six months. I was comptroller for the provisional wing responsible for all financial operations for the Air Force operations in Southwest Asia. The responsibilities of this position were immense, diverse, and challenging. The knowledge I gained from the guest speakers, students, and fellow faculty members helped me to succeed.

Hopefully this article doesn’t sound too much like an “Academy Award” acceptance speech, but there are many people to thank for a successful and rewarding assignment.

